STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF: LARRY B. ATWOOD, EMT AKA BRANDON B. ATWOOD, EMT LICENSE NUMBER EMT16338 COMPLAINT C14-030

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Larry Brandon Atwood, EMT, AKA Brandon B. Atwood, EMT (hereinafter "Respondent") whose date of birth is October 9, 1980, was licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws chapter 23-4.1 on March 6, 2014, and holds license numbers EMT16338. After investigation and review, the Director of the Department of Health makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent has been licensed as an emergency medical technician in Rhode Island since March 6, 2014. After his application was approved, a complaint was filed with the Rhode Island Department of Health (hereinafter "Department") which stated that Respondent failed to report his criminal record on his application for a Rhode Island EMT license.
- 2. Respondent filed his EMT application with the Department on or about February 27, 2014. On this application, Respondent checked the "no" box in response to the question, "Have you ever been convicted of a violation,

LARRY B. ATWOOD, EMT AKA BRANDON B. ATWOOD, EMT Page 2 of 5

- plead Nolo Contendere, or entered a plea bargain to any federal, state or local statute, regulation, or ordinance or are any formal charges pending?"
- 3. Department investigators contacted the Wilson County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office and learned that Respondent was convicted on October 10, 2003, after pleading guilty to presenting a worthless check. The social security number and birthdates listed on Respondent's arrest record were the same used on Respondent's application for his Rhode Island EMT license. In addition to the conviction, Respondent had been arrested for check violations on eight occasions between May 5, 2000 and September 10, 2003. He had also been charged with violations of probation in 2001, 2002 and 2008.
- 4. Respondent spoke with Department staff on June 5, 2014, and he indicated that his father had stolen his identity and used Respondent's identity with police. Department investigators then sought a booking photograph with the Wilson County, TN, Sheriff's Office. The investigators who had interviewed Respondent viewed the provided photograph and determined that it depicted the person they had just met.
- 5. Respondent told the Division of EMS staff on June 5, 2014, that he had never been an EMT or paramedic in any other state. On his application to work at one Rhode Island ambulance company in 2014, Respondent wrote

that he had been a paramedic with the Nashville, Tennessee, Fire Department from 2001 to 2009; and on his application to another ambulance company in 2014, he stated he had been a Nashville paramedic for twelve years. On his application for a Rhode Island EMT license, Respondent left blank the question that requested him to list all other states in which he held an EMT license. The Rhode Island Division of EMS spoke with officials at the Nashville Fire Department on June 6, 2014, who indicated that they did not have a record of either Larry B. Atwood or Brandon B. Atwood ever having worked for that department. The Tennessee Department of Health does not list anyone with either name as having any professional license, including emergency medical responder.

6. Respondent's deceitful statement on his application for his Rhode Island EMT license, his prior criminal conviction, and his impeding the work of duly authorized representatives of the Department by falsely claiming that he was not the same person who was arrested under his name each constitute violations respectively of the Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Emergency Medical Services, Rule 14.1(a), (g) and (i).

LARRY B. ATWOOD, EMT AKA BRANDON B. ATWOOD, EMT Page 4 of 5

- 1. Based upon the foregoing, and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 23-4.1-9 and 42-35-14(c) and state regulations pertaining to unprofessional conduct, Rule 14.1(a), (g) and (i), the Director of Health has determined that the continuation of the license of Larry Brandon Atwood, EMT, AKA Brandon B. Atwood, EMT, as an emergency medical technician constitutes an imminent threat to the health, welfare and safety of the public, and imperatively requires emergency action. Accordingly, the emergency medical technician license of Larry Brandon Atwood, EMT, AKA Brandon B. Atwood, EMT, is hereby suspended forthwith. Said suspension shall continue indefinitely pending further Order of the Department of Health.
- 2. The Respondent is entitled to request a hearing in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws 42-35-14(c) within ten days of receipt of this Order.

Michael Fine, MD Director of Health

Rhode Island Department of Health

Cannon Building, Room 401

Three Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908-5097

Tel. (401) 222-2231

LARRY B. ATWOOD, EMT AKA BRANDON B. ATWOOD, EMT Page 5 of 5

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have delivered via Many the within SUMMARY SUSPENSION to Larry B. Atwood, AKA Brandon B. Atwood, at his home address listed on his license application on this 10 day of June, 2014.

Louis J. Capizano Constable State of R.I. License #6040